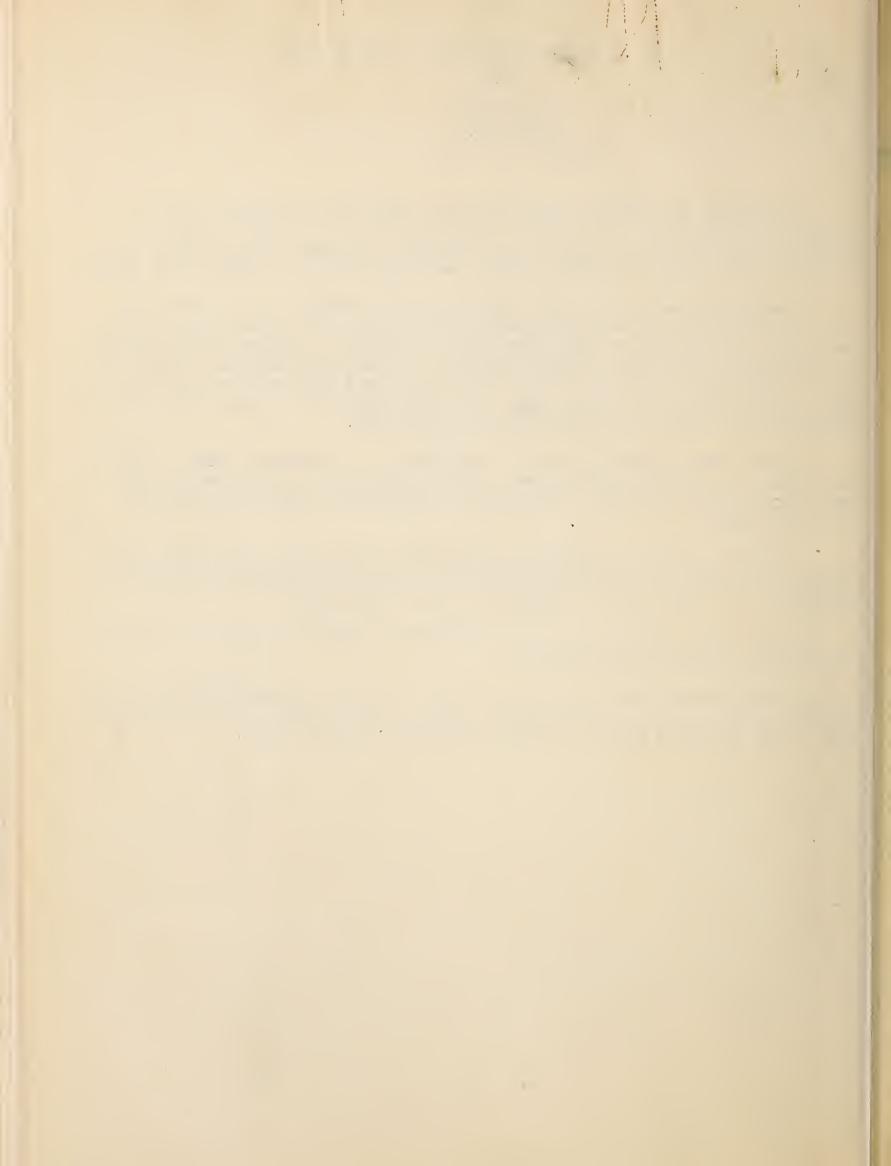
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United States Department of Agriculture Library

NEWSLETTER
Vol.5,No.1
January 11, 1917.

The cataloguers in the Main Library are at work upon the reclassification of agriculture in accordance with the scheme which was printed in the new edition of our classification. Of some of the books whose numbers are to be changed there are many copies and it is necessary for us to call in those which are filed in the bureaus. We intend to tell you when the book is needed for this purpose, and to return it as promptly as possible. We therefore trust that you will bear the inconvenience as cheerfully as possible.

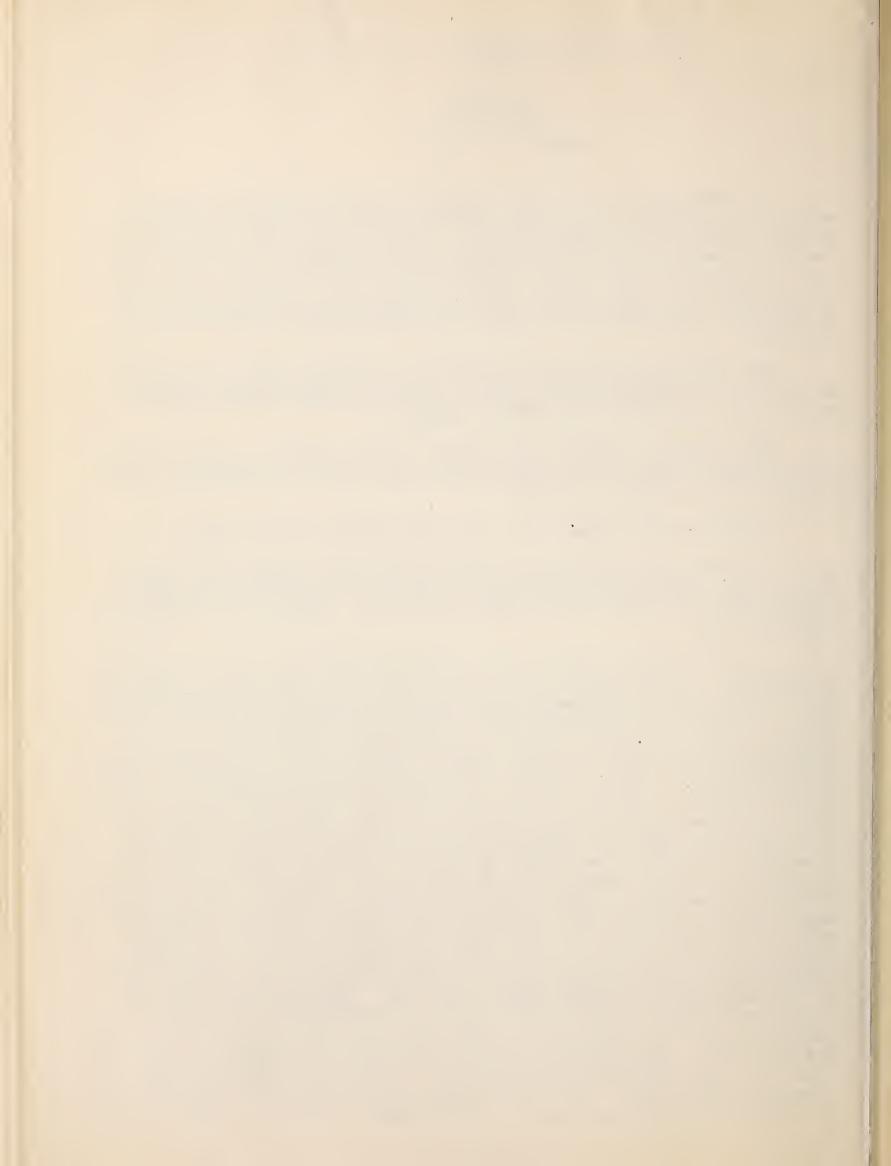
The temporary arrangement by which Miss Gertrude Upton was detailed to the B. P. I. Library and Miss Wead to the Main Library ended Jan.lst, and they are both back in their usual places.

Mrs. Gillman, formerly Miss Cowden, who was married in the fall but who continued to work in the Library for a time, has now resigned her position and gone to Detroit to live.

The Department Library has a new stenographer, Miss Poling.

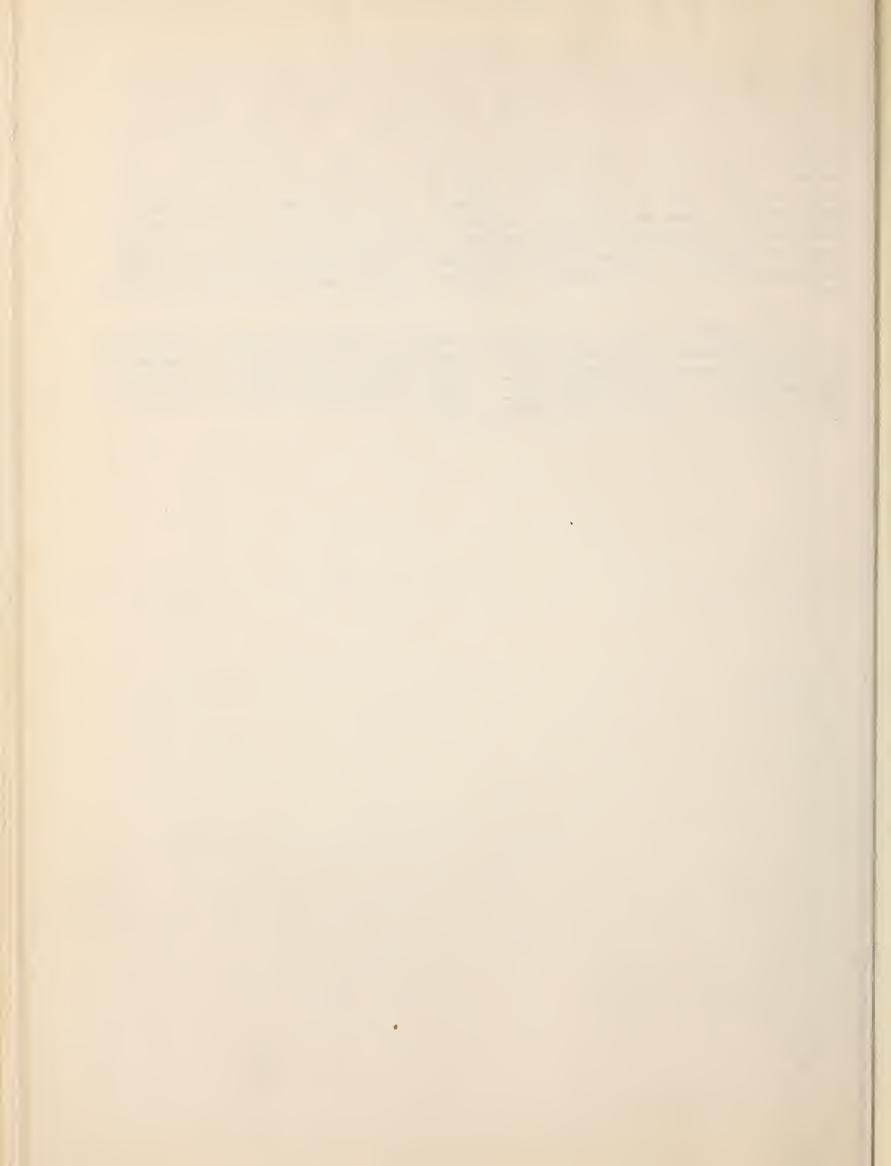
The Periodical Division has just prepared two typewritten lists on sheets of the periodicals currently received by the Library, one arranged alphabetically by title and the other by classes. These are available for temporary loan.

As you know we borrow books constantly and freely from the Library of Congress. It has always been the rule that only publications needed for use in connection with Department work should be borrowed from other libraries. We tried to impress this fact on Department borrowers this Fall by sending around a circular letter in regard to the matter. We have also always been in the habit of making special inquiry about any requests which looked doubtful. But the Library of Congress Reading Room has within the last few weeks been finding fault with us for sending, as it thinks, requests for books which it should not be asked to supply. With this limitation (i. e. that the books are needed for use in Department work) we have supposed that we could borrow without question. It seems however that the Superintendent of the Reading Room at the Library of Congress thinks we are asking for more than we should, more than they can afford to send, and for some things that they do not consider it is in their province to furnish. They do not think that it is legitimate, for instance, for us to request books to examine to see whether we wish to purchase them for the Library, nor because we think from the title that the book may be of interest, while we have no definite knowledge that it will be. They have also been much grieved by a request for one or two works of fiction which are asked for in cornection with Department work. Even with the explanation as to just what use these books were expected to serve, the Library of Congress is not satisfied that they should have been asked for. This is also the case with two books on argumentation. The getting together of the books requested by the different government departments from the Library of Congress takes all the



time of two employees, and they feel that there should be more careful discrimination as to what is requested. It is so very easy, as they say, to toss a slip into the hopper and have the book delivered, and perhaps it is true that we do look at it somewhat in that light. In these circumstances will not the bureau librarians consider carefully each request which they send over, and place before the men something of this point of view. Hiss Barnett thinks that we would better make it a rule that no work of fiction shall be asked for in the routine request. If one is absolutely needed we shall have to take the matter up separately and formally. As a matter of fact there are probably not six requests for fiction in a year, but unfortunately we asked for three within a few days of each other, as well as for another book which the Library of Congress thought was fiction but which was not.

In December 1916, the Office of Markets library compiled a supplement to their extended bibliography on the Marketing of Farm Products, issued in multigraphed form in November 1915. The supplement consists of seven multigraphed pages of letter sheet size. Both the original list and the supplement were compiled by Miss M. E. Griffith.



United States Department of Agriculture. Library

NEWSLETTER Vol.5,No.2 March 8, 1917.

There seems to be little to report this month, except personals, resignations and appointments - unfortunately more of the former than the latter.

Miss Knapp, who has been in the Library for 16 years, resigned on March 1st and has gone to her home in Michigan. She was needed there, and she also felt that she, herself, needed a rest. For the present Miss Newman is to look after the Department publications, which formed a part of Miss Knapp's work.

Mr. Theodore Fisher, who has also been with us for a number of years, beginning as a messenger boy, has gone to Halifax, N. S., where he is vice-consul. Miss Poling, recently appointed as a stenographer and typewriter, has been transferred to the Division of Publications.

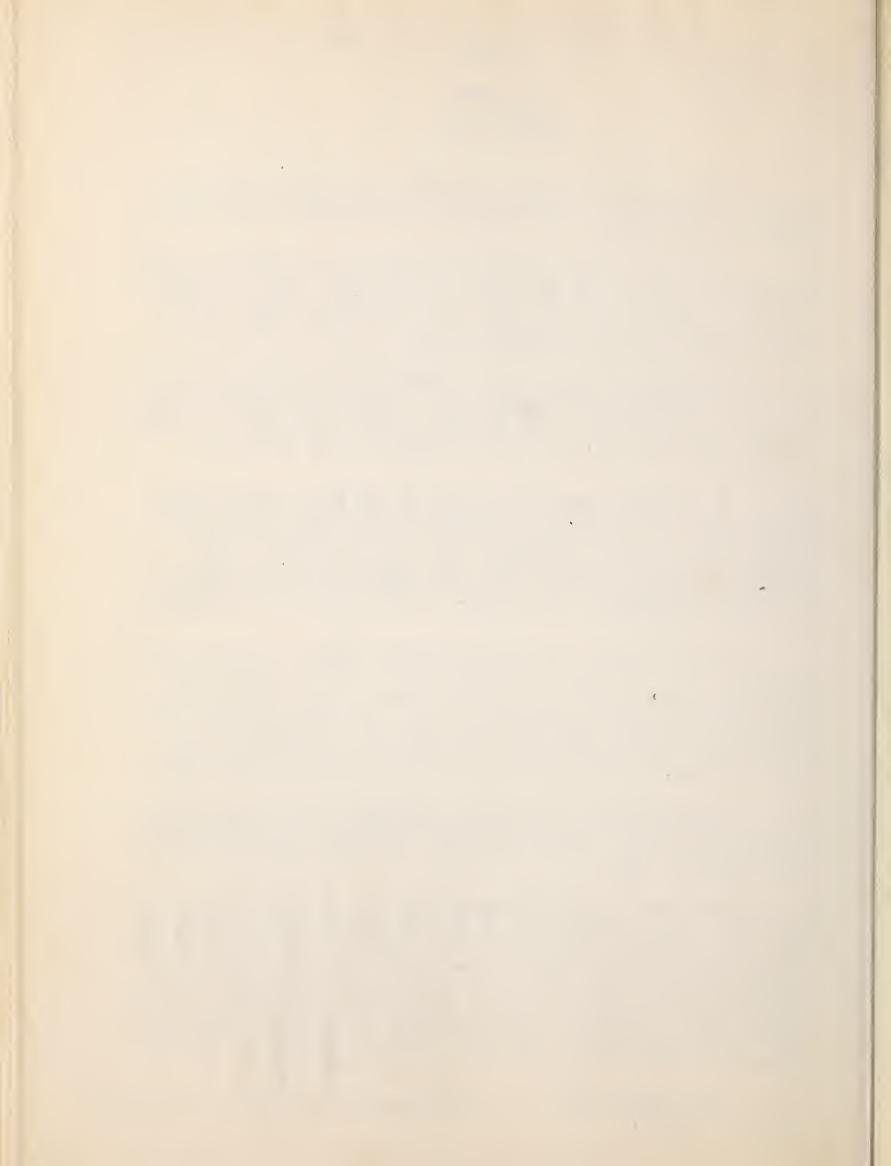
Owing to the depleted condition of the Civil Service rolls we have been unable to obtain assistants to fill these positions permanently. A special examination was held on February 27th, and we hope that the list of eligibles will be ready soon. In the meantime, Miss Rosa Vickers, Miss Leila Kemmerer and Miss Margaret Olcott are assisting us temporarily. We have also a new messenger, Herbert R. Broderick.

We are having a new variety of slip printed - a "rush" slip for use at the Loan Desk - the idea being the same as that of the little pink slip used at the Periodical desk - that if the bureau librarians will put one in books that are specially requested, such books will be picked out at the Loan Desk and handled before the rest of the books. We will send some around to the branches when they are ready. We hope it will not be too much work to use them.

Miss Griffiths of the Markets library resently spent a week at the Munsey Building working with Miss Phillips in the preparation of material for the S2 branch stations established under the U.S. grain standards Act.

The Bureau of Plant Industry announces with great regret the resignation of Miss Wead, who left the Department the last of February. About eighteen months ago, at the request of the Office of Crop Physiology, Miss Jessie Allen of the Library staff was transferred for half time to that office, to work on their citrus index, and Miss Wead was appointed by the Office to compensate to the Library for Miss Allen's loss. Since Miss Wead's departure, it has been decided that a new assistant will not be appointed to take her place, but that Miss Allen will give her full time to the Library once more.

Miss Junkins, who was doing bibliographical work for Mr. Safford, has also resigned.



United States Department of Agriculture.
Library.

NEWSLETTER. Vol.5,No.3. April 19, 1917.

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The Department Library has again to report a number of changes in the staff. Mr. Erwin Schuler, who has been with us several years and had been recently assisting at the Periodical Desk, has left to go to the Post Office as a letter carrier. Miss Grace F. Leonard has been appointed as a stenographer. Miss Black who was with us for about six months as a temporary stenographer has gone to a permanent position in the Navy Department. Selections have been made from the eligibles certified from the recent special examination for library assistants, but the only one of these who has yet begun work is Miss Kemmerer who had been with us singe February as a temporary assistant and who is now made permanent. Another assistant is expected April 23rd, but the other two cannot come until the middle of June, since they are still attending Library school and wish to finish their course. Mrs. Celia Nye has been appointed as a temporary assistant, and Miss Frances Allen, a student assistant in the Bureau of Plant Industry Library is temporarily detailed to the Main Library. We have two new messenger boys, Harvey Brasse, transferred from the Farm Management Library and Edward Limerick.

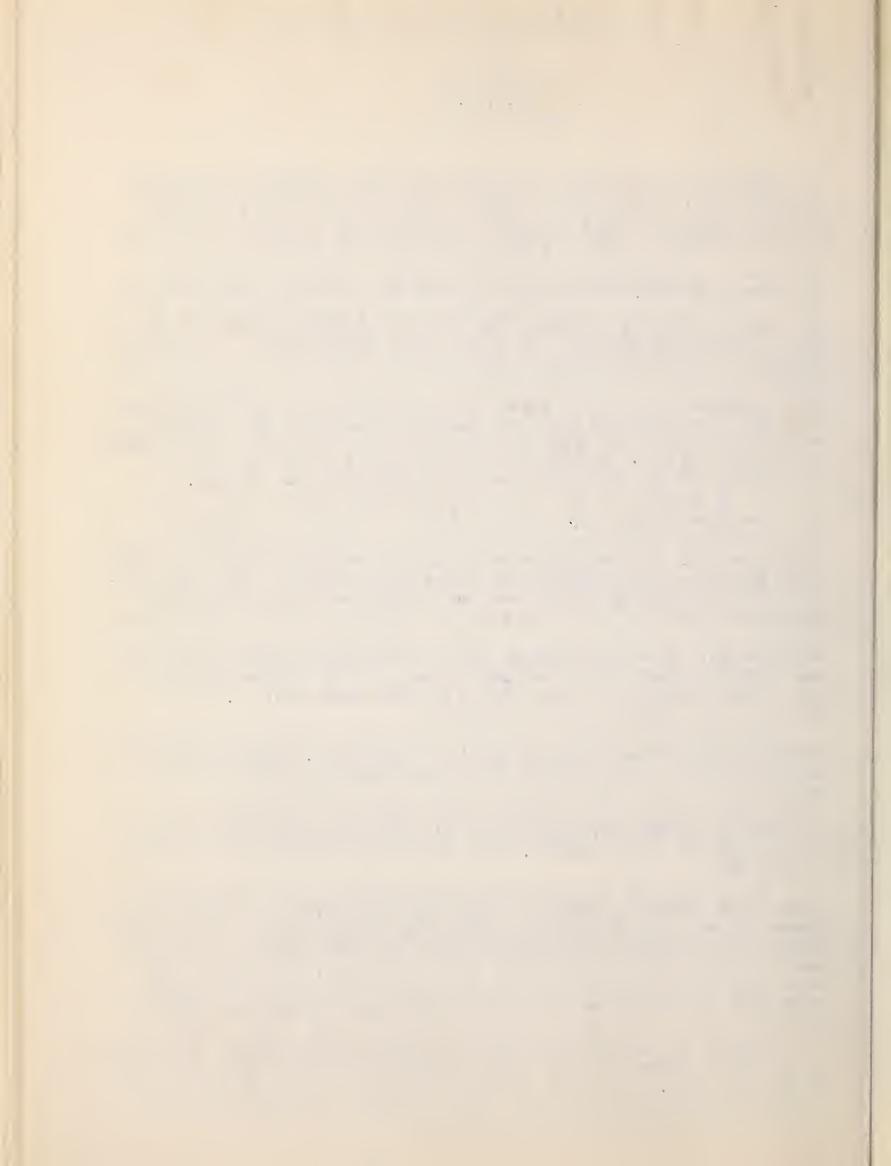
Our attack of library schools was rather unusually severe this year - not that there were more than there often are, but because we had two in one day. The New York City Public Library, Library School visited us on March 23rd and on April 10th we had 40 from the New York State Library School, at Albany, in the morning and 15 from the Syracuse in the afternoon. The visitors are divided up in groups and escorted about the Library, with explanations in the various departments of the work conducted there. These explanations were repeated eight times on that day and it was reported that the expositors became quite expert before the end, so that it sounded almost like a library school lecture.

The Department Library has just gotten out a multigraphed circular called "Library Notes", consisting of a single sheet. Probably others will be issued in the future whenever there are matters which it seems well to call to the attention of the users of the Library.

The 6th and last volume of Bailey's Standard cyclopedia of horticulture has just been received.

We have noticed that another library school is to be established next October when the training class of the St. Louis Public Library will assume the name and status of the St. Louis Library School. Mrs. Drury, formerly Miss Gertrude Gilbert, who worked in this Library for several years is to be the chief assistant to the principal. The announcement says that "she has already entered on her duties and will take active part in preparing for the changes that will occur formally in October next."

On Aril 4th Miss Ida Lynn was transferred from the Bureau of Education to the Munsey Branch Library, which is connected with the Federal Grain Supervision work. Miss Lynn was chief cataloguer for the Bureau of Education library. Her present duties will be largely cataloguing for the field offices of Federal Grain Supervision.



United States Department of Agriculture.
Library.

NEWSLETTER. Vol.5,no.4. May 25,1917.

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We are glad to report that a new assistant has been appointed from the Civil service list - Miss Leona L. Clark. Miss Clark, after some experience in the cataloguing work is now learning the ordering and bookkeeping, of which Miss Crowther has had charge since Mr. Hinton left last winter.

We have a new messenger boy in the Department Library, Howard Limerick.

The second number of "Library notes" will be promulgated soon. Will anyone who has any suggestions for this sheet, please send them to Miss Barnett or Miss Barnett

Miss Upton asks me to remind the branch librarians that if they will put the new "Rush" slips in books which are specially requested, such books will reach the person who desires them, more promptly. Of course this is a somewhat altruistic work, but we flatter ourselves that library people do not have the spirit of one of our mere borrowers, who said today that, so long as we sent him the books he wanted, the ones to be returned might stay in his basket waiting for a messenger forever, for all he cared.

A good article to recommend to people who are compiling bibliographies is one in the New York medical journal, v. 104, no.15, October 7, 1916, called, "Verify your references" by Frank Place, jr. We should like to impress its precepts on the people who copy references to send in to us, but that is hopeless.

Please notice the new directions "How to use the catalogue" which have just been placed on top of the catalogue cases. We have no doubt that we shall think of a great many other things that should have been said. Fortunately it is possible to make alterations and additions.

We have just been getting some additional books to bring up to date the little collection on practical agriculture in the Reading Room.

Mr. John W. Perkins of Indiana has been appointed translator in the Bureau of chemistry and has been assigned to the Bureau library. He will be specially interested in the collection of foreign food laws, which will be added to and improved.

Miss Helen Sioussat, formerly of the Library of Congress, has a temporary appointment in the S. R. S. library. Among other things she is helping Miss Ethel Lacy in the preparation of lists of extension publications of the state colleges of agriculture.

The S. R. S. library has been kind enough to send to the Department library a typewritten copy of the lists of extension publications for the states from Alabama to Hawaii, and promises further ones as completed. These lists are kept in the Reading Room along with the typewritten lists of State Experiment Stations publications and, like those, are joyfully received.

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The Office of grain standardization, which moved to the Munsey Building last December, has now, owing to the demand for space in that building by the Council of national defense, been moved again into this building. Miss Phillips and Miss Lynn and their library have also of course come. The Office of animal husbandry and its books have moved from here to the Bush building on E. Street.

Joseph Als, messenger in the B. P. I. library went to the fire the other day on a bicycle and was run into by a taxicab, the result being a broken leg which will keep him in the Emergency hospital for two or three months.

A library picnic is in contemplation for May 30th at Great Falls. Every one is invited to come. Will those who can do so please send their names, before Monday, to Miss Gertrude Upton so that plans for time, lunch, etc., can be made.

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NEWSLETTER. Vol.5, no.5. June 29, 1917.

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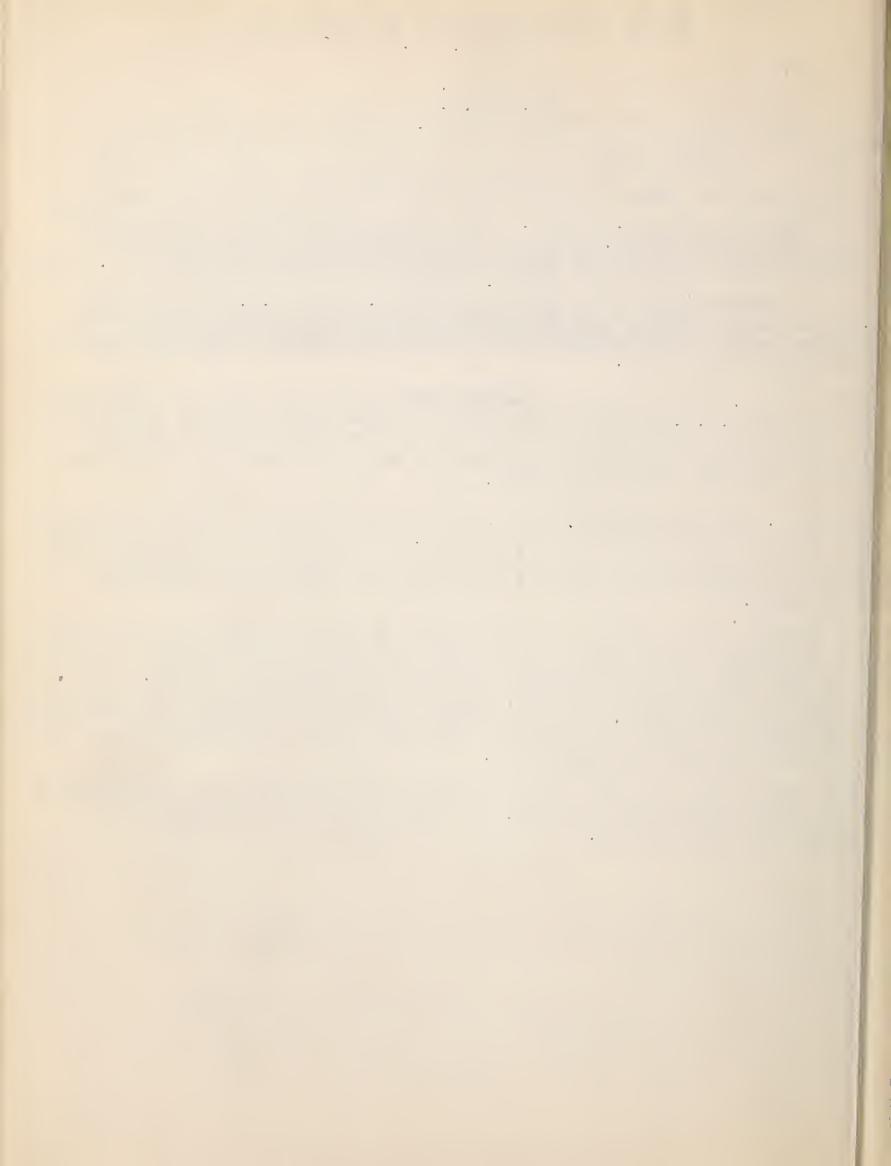
The Department Library has obtained two new assistants, Miss Ernestine Packard and Miss Helen M. Foster. They began work on June 16, and are at present doing cataloguing, Miss Marian Bowman came at the same time as an assistant to the Office of Farm Management Library and Miss Ina L. Hawes to the Bureau of Entomology Library. These four young ladies are all graduates of this year's class at Simmons College. Miss E.M.Hart and Miss E.L.Biddle, both from the Syracuse Library School have been appointed to positions in the Office of Economic Collections, Bureau of Plant Industry, for bibliographical work.

Miss Mary G. Lacy and Miss Ogden were the only ones from the Department to attend the A.L.A.meeting at Louisville, Miss Ogden deciding rather suddenly to go from Knoxville where she is on her vacation. She was in Louisville for two days only - the days on which the meetings of the Agricultural libraries section occurred.

George H. Happ has resigned from the Office of Markets Library to accept a position as clerk in the War Department. His resignation was a real loss to the Office Library, but it was fortunate in securing in his place, the services of Raymond Poore who has been for some years with the Cotton Futures force.

The Library of the Grain Standardization investigations has been merged with the library of the Office of Markets and Rural Organization, and after July 1, the whole will be known as the Bureau of Markets Library. In addition to Room 705, previously used, Rooms 704 and 706 of the Bieber Building have been assigned to it. Room 705 is now the general reading and reference room in which the books are shelved; Room 706 is the periodical room, and in Room 704 is the pamphlet collection.

Miss Oberly reposts that over \$2700 has been received for the ambulance fund and there is more to come in. It has not yet been decided just whatto do with the surplus.



Library.

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NEWSLETTER.
Vol.5,no.6.
November 22, 1917.

As this is the first number of the Newsletter to be issued since the one for July, some account of the activities of the summer will be given.

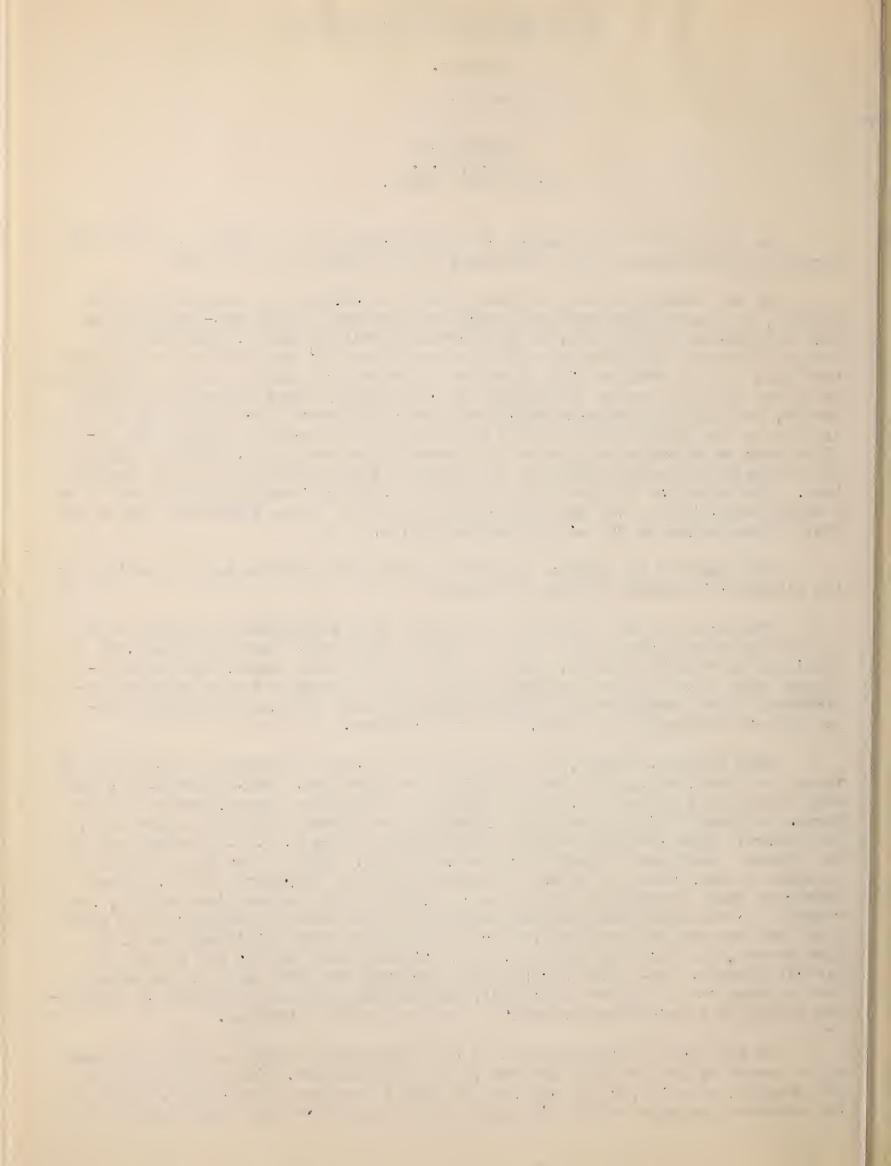
At the meeting of the American Library Association in Louisville, Miss Barnett, as you no doubt know, was appointed chairman of the Sub-committee on food information of the A. L. A. War Service Committee and has been busy all summer with work in connection with this committee. A circular letter has been sent to a list of 5000 or 6000 libraries in the United States, giving suggestions as to how they can assist in the work of encouraging larger production of food stuffs, and offering Department publications of interest from this point of view, especially the posters and leaflets which have been recently issued. The replies were so numerous as to make it necessary for one of the Library's messenger boys to work for several weeks in the Document Section helping to fill these orders. The formation of the Library Section of the Food Administration has taken a large part of this work out of the hands of the A. L. A. Committee, but we are still often called on for assistance and advice.

Miss Lynn of the Bureau of Markets Library has left to take a position in the Library of Goucher College, Baltimore.

Roderick Jamison, formerly a messenger in the Department Library, left during the summer, having enlisted in the National Guard Coast Artillery. He is stationed at Fort Washington. Carlton Booker and Harvey Brasse have both resigned their positions as messengers in the Main Library and have left the Department. New messengers are Howard Limerick, Allen Newman, and Rudolph Diekman who was formerly in the Dairy Division Library.

Miss Helen M. Foster, who was obliged to take a furlough of two months on account of her health, returned to work on November 1st. Mrs. Celia M. Nye has been a temporary assistant in the Department Library for several months. Miss Bertha Gericke is also a temporary appointee, at present detailed to the B. P. I. Library, but for the present continues to work in the main library. Half of her day, as before, is spent in work with the Japanese literature in Mr. Swingle's office. Miss Katherine Wead, formerly of the B. P. I. Library, who resigned last spring, has returned to the Department and was employed in the Bureau of Markets for a short time, but has now been transferred to the Office of Crop Physiology, B. P. I. Miss Barnes, who has been in the B. P. I. Library, has gone to the Bureau of Markets Library. Mr. Guido Mariotti was employed for some weeks in the Department Library as a temporary assistant, and has now gone to the Bureau of Biological Survey as a temporary assistant to the editor and librarian.

An addition to the equipment of the Department Library is a display case which stands by the new book shelves in the Reading Room. On it is placed the new pamphlet material, which may thus be looked over much more easily. Most of the separate pamphlets which are stapled into binders are now being labeled on



the outside with author and title, which also facilitates matters.

The Library is making a special effort to collect the poster material along the lines of interest to the Department work. These posters have been gotten out in profusion during the summer and fall. There is also a collection, not catalogued, but kept by Miss Lacy at her desk, of publications of the various state councils of defense.

The Bureau of Markets library has recently issued three mimeograph lists which may be of interest to branch libraries. The first is a list of the publications of the Bureau of Markets; the second gives the titles of the Service and Regulatory Announcements issued by that Bureau, which includes those relating to the United States Cotton Futures Act, the United States grain standards Act, and other subjects; the third is a list, with a brief description of each, of the services or series of reports issued by the Bureau, such as the daily market reports on fruits and vegetables, the weekly carlot summaries, the semimonthly reports on honey, etc.

The annual report of the Library for the year 1917, on account of lack of space, could not include all the data supplied in the reports furnished by the Bureau and Division libraries. The complete reports may be borrowed by those wishing to read them.

